

AMENDMENT
S/N 09/198,018, FILED 11/23/1998

PATENT
130-125

REMARKS

The above-referenced Office Action has been carefully reviewed and reconsideration thereof is respectfully requested.

Claims 1, 6, 7, 18, and 21 have been rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Eigen et al. in view of Natelson. Applicant respectfully traverses this ground of rejection in view of the above amendments to Claims 1 and 21 which now have inserted therein portions of the claims depending therefrom.


Claim 1 now has inserted therein a portion of the limitation of Claim 2 and Claim 21 now has inserted therein a portion of the limitation of Claim 22. Claim 10 now depends from Claim 1, as dependency from Claim 2 rendered Claim 10 ambiguous, since that Claim formerly referred to heat sealed material, while Claim 2 referred to having the material applied with a pressure sensitive adhesive. New Claim 31 is an apparatus claim repeating the limitation of method Claim 10.

In view of the above amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the claims in the application, Claims 1-18, 21-23, 30, and 31, are allowable and early action in that regard is respectfully requested.

Should the Examiner have any questions as to the allowability of the claims or have any suggestions with respect to the wording thereof, the undersigned would be grateful for the privilege of a telephone conference with the Examiner.

Date: January 20, 2004.

Respectfully submitted,


John H. Crozier
Reg. No. 30,371
1934 Huntington Turnpike
Trumbull CT 06611-5116
Tel: (203) 375-9118
Fax: (203) 378-8108